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Wilson, Democratic nominee for Governor of New Jersey, has given expression in clear and incisive language to ideas that the American people both need and will make effective. Mr. Wilson touches the sore spot of the Republican party when he says that "I am a Democrat because I believe the Democratic party to be better fitted to serve the interests of the people and freer to serve them than the Republican party."

Mr. Wilson mercilessly analyzes the corrupt alliance between the Republican party and the special interests it has fostered and served. "To break up this alliance between the government and private business is the Democratic opportunity," said Mr. Wilson, and the movement for better government shows how strongly the people believe in Mr. Wilson's battle cry.

But to break up a corrupt alliance does not mean to destroy business. Big business means better things for us all, if the business is controlled by the people instead of the people being controlled by the business. The real difficulty is that the corporations hide behind the legal fiction that they are individuals without responsibilities, and so the public suffer with no redress for wrongs except fines that always fall on the innocent and never hurt the guilty.

Woodrow Wilson is wise enough to know the difficulty in trying to make corporations responsible without destroying the value of incorporation to the commerce of this country. "We know that the man who shoots his enemy was not in the gun," says Mr. Wilson, "and the gun is not criminally liable." The point is to find the man that used the gun and make him responsible for his action.

Personal responsibility, the restoration of the rights of a man, and the responsibilities of a man, too; the right to labor and the responsibility for wrongs—these are the ideals that are making Mr. Wilson's campaign so inspiring and so formidable.

Insurgency in the West, the revolt against "bosses" in every State, the bitter assurance that the combinations of capital under corporate form sheltered behind the tariff wall, are despoiling every wage earner, gave a nucleus and a force to the present revolt against the Republican party that makes Mr. Wilson's declaration of principles a rallying point for every believer in the fundamentals of the American form of government.

MISLEADING SILENCE.

It is but six weeks until the vote on the four proposed amendments to the constitution of Virginia. The campaign for and against these changes has begun and it is the duty of every paper in this Commonwealth, no matter how large or how small, to take a stand on these questions, the most important before our people to-day. Upon the press rests the public responsibility of informing the electorate upon these propositions, so that a full, free, and intelligent vote may be had on November 8.

With one or two exceptions, the daily papers of Virginia have taken a stand, most of them favoring the defeat of all these proposed amendments. Expressions on one side or the other have been too few among the county papers. Their responsibility is equally as serious as that of the daily papers. They ought, at least, to state the propositions and to tell the people in every issue from now until the election what changes the proposed amendments would effect, if passed.

Only six weeks more. Vital changes are proposed in the constitution of a great Commonwealth which has always prided itself upon the interest which its citizens take in its government. And yet there are those who say that these changes will pass by default, that they will pass because the great mass of voters are indifferent to the questions before them.

The papers ought to speak out in no uncertain language now. This is not the time to be silent. The Virginia newspapers which have printed little or nothing about these changes intentionally or unintentionally will mislead the people they serve into thinking that such silence means that the proposed changes do not amount to anything and are not worth thinking about. Such misleading silence is an injustice to the people, a violation of the part of the newspapers of the duty which they owe to their constituents.

Speak out. Let there be no equivocal silence upon the most important matter before the people of Virginia. Face the issue.

CITY PROMOTION BY CONVENTION ADVERTISING.

Elsewhere in this paper the Hon. Homer Warren, postmaster of Detroit, an active member of the Board of Trade and president of one of the largest manufacturing establishments of that progressive city, has some extremely complimentary things to say of Richmond. He was astonished to see what a real city Richmond is, and how wonderful has been its business development—his visit here, he says, has been in the nature of an "eye-opener" for instead of stagnation he found here tremendous commercial activity.

Yet it is what Mr. Warren says about the value of advertising a city by having conventions to meet within its gates that is especially encouraging to those who are engaged in efforts for the promotion of the growth and prosperity of Richmond. Pointing out that in the last ten years Detroit, by the strict figure of the census, has made a gain of sixty-five per cent. in population, Mr. Warren says:

"I believe the growth has been very largely due to the policy of inviting and entertaining conventions which our Board of Trade introduced about ten years ago. I know of one

particular instance which came under my own observation, where a well known business man came to Detroit to a convention, spent several days driving about, and was impressed with its advantages as a manufacturing centre. To-day he is the president of a Detroit factory plant here employing 3,500 people, most of them high grade and well paid mechanics. I believe that his attendance on that one convention has added ten to fifteen thousand people to the population of Detroit. Aggressive business men are always on the lookout for business opportunities."

The ultimate value of a convention to a city is the advertising which that city will receive from the individuals who make up the convention. The financial return which the members of the convention may bring to various enterprises or concerns in a city while the convention is in progress is the small end of it. What the city derives by way of benefit from conventions comes from the individual after he has gone back home and begun to tell about what a wonderful and progressive business-like and delightful city Richmond is. In this way the advantages of Richmond are brought home to thousands of people whom other forms of city advertising would not reach.

For instance, Mr. Warren himself, while an attendant on the convention, is nevertheless a business man on the lookout for a distributing point for the products of his factory and Richmond impresses him "well." Doubtless there are other members of the convention now in session here who will go back similarly impressed. They are stored up with a knowledge gained by their own eyes and ears of the advantages of Richmond, its liberal opportunities for manufacturing concerns, and its countless merits as a place in which to carry on business. They may not come here, but they may be the means of the coming here of other people.

Richmond has already gained much by this form of advertising and will continue to do so. It is to be hoped that the people of Richmond will lend